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P R 141705Z NOV 72
FM AMEMBASSY BERN
TO RUEHC/ SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 6875
INFO RUFHGV/ USMISSION GENEVA 710
BT
C O N F I D E N T I A L

66717

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BERN 3238

SALT

SUBJECT: SWISS RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON FOR OPENING
OF SALT II

REF: BERN 3064

1. SWISS FEDERAL POLITICAL DEPARTMENT NOVEMBER 14 MADE FOLLOWING DETAILED PROPOSALS CONCERNING NOVEMBER 23 RECEPTION AND LUNCHEON FOR US AND SOVIET SALT DELEGATONS. IN SOME RESPECTS LATEST PROPOSALS CONTRADICT AND COUNTERMAND WHAT WE HAD REGARDED AS AGREED UPON EARLIER.
2. MOST IMPORTANTLY, SWISS PRESIDENT CELIO AND FOREIGN MINISTER GRABER HAVE DECIDED THAT THEY WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE ONLY CHIEF OF TWO SALT DELEGATONS ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR COUNTRIES' AMBASSADORS IN BERN AT A RECEPTION SCHEDULED FOR 11:45 A.M. NOVEMBER 23. FULL DELEGATIONS PLUS AMERICAN AND SOVIET AMBASSADORS TO SWITZERLAND INVITED TO LUNCHEON AT 1300 HOURS. SWISS HAVE ALSO DECIDED TO INVITE 7 RPT 7 FROM EACH DELEGATION. APPARENTLY SOVIETS HAVE ACCEPTED ABOVE, AND SWISS ASK WHETHER US SIDE COULD POSSIBLY ADD TWO MORE PERSONS TO LIST ALREADY FURNISHED THEM.

3. SWISS ARE RESERVING SPECIAL CAR ON GENEVA TO BERN

State Dept. declassification & release instructions on file

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MFG. 1-72

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TRAIN FOR SALT DELEGATIONS, ARRIVING BERN 1102 A.M. NOVEMBER 23. SWISS ARE PROVIDING LIMOUSINES (THREE FOR EACH DELEGATION) TO FURNISH TRANSPORTATION THROUGHOUT PROGRAM AND TAKE DELEGATIONS ALL THE WAY BACK TO GENEVA. SWISS HAVE RESERVED ROOMS AT BELLEVUE PALACE HOTEL TO PERMIT VISITORS TO REST AND FRESHEN UP. RECEPTION WILL TAKE PLACE AT WATTENWYL HOUSE NEARBY AND LUNCH AT BELLEVUE PALACE HOTEL ITSELF.

COMMENT: WE HAVE EXPLAINED TO SWISS REPEATEDLY AT DIFFERENT LEVELS, CLEARLY AND EVEN BLUNTLY, LEVEL AND CALIBER OF US SALT DELEGATION AND AWKWARDNESS OF DIVIDING IT FOR PURPOSE OF RECEPTION AND LUNCH, RESPECTIVELY. WHEN WE ASKED THEM POINTEDLY WHAT THEY EXPECTED AMBASSADOR FARLEY, MR. NITZE, GENERAL ALLISON, AND DR. GARTHOFF TO DO WHILE AMBASSADOR SMITH ATTENDED RECEPTION, THEY SUGGESTED TOUR OF BERN. WE ALSO EXPLAINED THAT GIVEN COMPOSITION OF SALT DELEGATION, IT MIGHT BE DIFFICULT TO ADD TWO ADDITIONAL NAMES TO SATISFY SWISS DESIRE FOR SEVEN MEMBER GROUP AT LUNCH. FURTHERMORE, WE HAVE REITERATED SEVERAL TIMES OUR VIEW THAT MATTERS INVOLVING SALT AND SWISS FEDERAL GOVERNMENT SHOULD BE DEALT WITH IN ONE APPROPRIATE CHANNEL, PREFERABLE FDP--EMBASSY BERN, RATHER THAN IN SEVERAL CHANNELS AND AT SEVERAL LEVELS SIMULTANEOUSLY WHERE THINGS INEVITABLY GO OFF THE TRACK.

PLEASE ADVISE US OF YOUR WISHES AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.
EXEMPT.DAVIS

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